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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

HEE SOON PARK,
Plaintiff,
vs.

19723 VENTURA LLC; and DOES 1
through 10,
Defendants.

Case No.:

**COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE
RELIEF AND DAMAGES FOR
VIOLATION OF:**

1. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES
ACT, 42 U.S.C. §12131 et seq.;
2. CALIFORNIA'S UNRUH CIVIL
RIGHTS ACT, CAL CIV. CODE §§ 51 -
52 et seq.;
3. CALIFORNIA'S DISABLED
PERSONS ACT, CAL CIV. CODE §54 et
seq.
4. CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY
CODE § 19955, et seq.
5. NEGLIGENCE

Plaintiff HEE SOON PARK ("Plaintiff") complains of Defendants 19723
VENTURA LLC; and DOES 1 through 10 ("Defendants") and alleges as follows:

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PARTIES

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2 1. Plaintiff is a California resident with a physical disability. Plaintiff suffers
3 from Dyspnea and stage 3 Neuropathy in her legs, which substantially limit her ability to
4 walk and requires the use of a wheelchair at all times when traveling in public.

5 2. Defendants are, or were at the time of the incident, the real property owners,
6 business operators, lessors and/or lessees of the real property for a restaurant
7 (“Business”) located at or about 19723 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills, California.

8 3. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate or
9 otherwise of Defendant DOES 1 to 10, and each of them, are unknown to Plaintiff, who
10 therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will ask leave of Court
11 to amend this Complaint when the true names and capacities have been ascertained.
12 Plaintiff is informed and believes and, based thereon, alleges that each such fictitiously
13 named Defendants are responsible in some manner, and therefore, liable to Plaintiff for
14 the acts herein alleged.

15 4. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that, at all relevant
16 times, each of the Defendants was the agent, employee, or alter-ego of each of the other
17 Defendants, and/or was acting in concert with each of the other Defendants, and in doing
18 the things alleged herein was acting with the knowledge and consent of the other
19 Defendants and within the course and scope of such agency or employment relationship.

20 5. Whenever and wherever reference is made in this Complaint to any act or
21 failure to act by a defendant or Defendants, such allegations and references shall also be
22 deemed to mean the acts and failures to act of each Defendant acting individually, jointly
23 and severally.

24 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

25 6. The Court has jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 28 USC §§ 1331 and
26 1343 for violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, (42 USC §12101, *et*
27 *seq.*)
28

1 7. Pursuant to pendant jurisdiction, attendant and related causes of action,
2 arising from the same nucleus of operating facts, are also brought under California law,
3 including, but not limited to, violations of California Civil Code §§51, 51.5, 52(a), 52.1,
4 54, 54., 54.3 and 55.

5 8. Plaintiff's claims are authorized by 28 USC §§ 2201 and 2202.

6 9. Venue is proper in this court pursuant to 28 USC §1391(b). The real
7 property which is the subject of this action is located in this district, Los Angeles County,
8 California, and Plaintiff's causes of actions arose in this district.

9 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

10 10. In or about February of 2022, Plaintiff went to the Business.

11 11. The Business is a restaurant business establishment, open to the public, and
12 is a place of public accommodation and affects commerce through its operation.
13 Defendants provide parking spaces for customers.

14 12. While attempting to enter the Business during each visit, Plaintiff personally
15 encountered a number of barriers that interfered with her ability to use and enjoy the
16 goods, services, privileges, and accommodations offered at the Business.

17 13. To the extent of Plaintiff's personal knowledge, the barriers at the Business
18 included, but were not limited to, the following:

- 19 a. Defendant failed to maintain the parking space designated for persons
20 with disabilities to comply with the federal and state standards.
21 Defendants failed to provide the access aisles with level surface
22 slopes.
- 23 b. Defendant failed to maintain the parking space designated for persons
24 with disabilities to comply with the federal and state standards.
25 Defendants failed to maintain the paint on the ground as required.
- 26 c. Defendants failed to maintain the parking space designated for
27 persons with disabilities to comply with the federal and state
28

standards. Defendants failed to maintain the mark on the space with the International Symbol of Accessibility.

14. These barriers and conditions denied Plaintiff the full and equal access to the Business and caused her difficulty and frustration. Plaintiff wishes to return and patronize the Business, however, Plaintiff is deterred from visiting the Business because her knowledge of these violations prevents her from returning until the barriers are removed.

15. Based on the violations, Plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, that there are additional barriers to accessibility at the Business after further site inspection. Plaintiff seeks to have all barriers related to her disability remedied. *See Doran v. 7-Eleven, Inc.* 524 F.3d 1034 (9th Cir. 2008).

16. In addition, Plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, that Defendants knew that particular barriers render the Business inaccessible, violate state and federal law, and interfere with access for the physically disabled.

17. At all relevant times, Defendants had and still have control and dominion over the conditions at this location and had and still have the financial resources to remove these barriers without much difficulty or expenses to make the Business accessible to the physically disabled in compliance with ADDAG and Title 24 regulations. Defendants have not removed such barriers and have not modified the Business to conform to accessibility regulations.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

18. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior paragraphs in this complaint.

19. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), no individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place of

1 public accommodation by any person who owns, leases, or leases to, or operates a place
2 of public accommodation. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a).

3 20. Discrimination, *inter alia*, includes:

- 4 a. A failure to make reasonable modification in policies, practices, or
5 procedures, when such modifications are necessary to afford such
6 goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations
7 to individuals with disabilities, unless the entity can demonstrate that
8 making such modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of
9 such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or
10 accommodations. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(ii).
- 11 b. A failure to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no
12 individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or
13 otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the
14 absence of auxiliary aids and services, unless the entity can
15 demonstrate that taking such steps would fundamentally alter the
16 nature of the good, service, facility, privilege, advantage, or
17 accommodation being offered or would result in an undue burden. 42
18 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iii).
- 19 c. A failure to remove architectural barriers, and communication barriers
20 that are structural in nature, in existing facilities, and transportation
21 barriers in existing vehicles and rail passenger cars used by an
22 establishment for transporting individuals (not including barriers that
23 can only be removed through the retrofitting of vehicles or rail
24 passenger cars by the installation of a hydraulic or other lift), where
25 such removal is readily achievable. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv).
- 26 d. A failure to make alterations in such a manner that, to the maximum
27 extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are readily
28 accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including

1 individuals who use wheelchairs or to ensure that, to the maximum
2 extent feasible, the path of travel to the altered area and the
3 bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered
4 area, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with
5 disabilities where such alterations to the path or travel or the
6 bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered
7 area are not disproportionate to the overall alterations in terms of cost
8 and scope. 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a)(2).

9 21. For the parking spaces, access aisles shall be marked with a blue painted
10 borderline around their perimeter. The area within the blue borderlines shall be marked
11 with hatched lines a maximum of 36 inches (914 mm) on center in a color contrasting
12 with that of the aisle surface, preferably blue or white. The words "NO PARKING" shall
13 be painted on the surface within each access aisle in white letters a minimum of 12 inches
14 (305 mm) in height and located to be visible from the adjacent vehicular way. CBC §
15 11B-502.3.3.

16 22. Here, Defendants failed to properly maintain the access aisles as there were
17 no "NO PARKING" and faded blue lines painted on the parking surface.

18 23. Under the 1991 Standards, parking spaces and access aisles must be level
19 with surface slopes not exceeding 1:50 (2%) in all directions. 1991 Standards § 4.6.2.
20 Accessible parking spaces shall be at least 96 in (2440 mm) wide. Parking access aisles
21 shall be part of an accessible route to the building or facility entrance and shall comply
22 with 4.3. Two accessible parking spaces may share a common access aisle. Parked
23 vehicle overhangs shall not reduce the clear width of an accessible route. Parking spaces
24 and access aisles shall be level with surface slopes not exceeding 1:50 (2%) in all
25 directions. 1991 Standards § 4.6.3.

26 24. Here, the access aisles were not level with the parking surfaces. Under the
27 2010 Standards, access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking spaces they serve.
28 Changes in level are not permitted. 2010 Standards § 502.4. "Access aisles are required

1 to be nearly level in all directions to provide a surface for transfer to and from vehicles.”
2 2010 Standards § 502.4 Advisory. *Id.* No more than a 1:48 slope is permitted.

3 25. The surface of each accessible car and van space shall have surface
4 identification complying with either of the following options: The outline of a profile
5 view of a wheel chair with occupant in white on a blue background a minimum 36” wide
6 by 36” high (914 mm x 914 mm). The centerline of the profile view shall be a maximum
7 of 6 inches (152 mm) from the centerline of the parking space, its sides parallel to the
8 length of the parking space and its lower side or corner aligned with the end of the
9 parking space length or by outlining or painting the parking space in blue and outlining
10 on the ground in white or a suitable contrasting color a profile view of a wheel chair with
11 occupant. *See* CBC § 11B-502.6.4, *et seq.*

12 26. Here, Defendants failed to maintain the mark on the surface with the
13 International Symbol of Accessibility as required.

14 27. A public accommodation shall maintain in operable working condition those
15 features of facilities and equipment that are required to be readily accessible to and usable
16 by persons with disabilities by the Act or this part. 28 C.F.R. 35.211(a).

17 28. By failing to maintain the facility to be readily accessible and usable by
18 Plaintiff, Defendants are in violation of Plaintiff’s rights under the ADA and its related
19 regulations.

20 29. The Business has denied and continues to deny full and equal access to
21 Plaintiff and to other people with disabilities. Plaintiff has been and will continue to be
22 discriminated against due to the lack of accessible facilities, and therefore, seeks
23 injunctive relief to alter facilities to make such facilities readily accessible to and usable
24 by individuals with disabilities.

25 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

26 **VIOLATION OF THE UNRUH CIVIL RIGHTS ACT**

27 30. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior
28 paragraphs in this complaint.

1 37. California Civil Code § 54.1(a) states, “Individuals with disabilities shall be
2 entitled to full and equal access, as other members of the general public, to
3 accommodations, advantages, facilities, medical facilities, including hospitals, clinics,
4 and physicians’ offices, and privileges of all common carriers, airplanes, motor vehicles,
5 railroad trains, motorbuses, streetcars, boats, or any other public conveyances or modes
6 of transportation (whether private, public, franchised, licensed, contracted, or otherwise
7 provided), telephone facilities, adoption agencies, private schools, hotels, loading places,
8 places of public accommodations, amusement, or resort, and other places in which the
9 general public is invited, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by
10 law, or state or federal regulation, and applicable alike to all persons.

11 38. California Civil Code § 54.3(a) states, “Any person or persons, firm or
12 corporation who denies or interferes with admittance to or enjoyment of public facilities
13 as specified in Sections 54 and 54.1 or otherwise interferes with the rights of an
14 individual with a disability under Sections 54, 54.1 and 54.2 is liable for each offense for
15 the actual damages, and any amount as may be determined by a jury, or a court sitting
16 without a jury, up to a maximum of three times the amount of actual damages but in no
17 case less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and any attorney’s fees that may be
18 determined by the court in addition thereto, suffered by any person denied the rights
19 provided in Section 54, 54.1, and 54.2.

20 39. California Civil Code § 54(d) specifies, “a violation of the right of an
21 individual under Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336) also
22 constitute a violation of this section, and nothing in this section shall be construed to limit
23 the access of any person in violation of that act.

24 40. The actions and omissions of Defendants alleged herein constitute a denial
25 of full and equal accommodation, advantages, and facilities by physically disabled
26 persons within the meaning of California Civil Code § 54. Defendants have
27 discriminated against Plaintiff in violation of California Civil Code § 54.
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1 41. The violations of the California Disabled Persons Act caused Plaintiff to
 2 experience difficulty, discomfort, and embarrassment. The Defendants are also liable for
 3 statutory damages as specified in California Civil Code §55.56(a)-(c).

4 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

5 **CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 19955, et seq.**

6 42. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior
 7 paragraphs in this complaint.

8 43. Plaintiff and other similar physically disabled persons who require the use of
 9 a wheelchair are unable to use public facilities on a “full and equal” basis unless each
 10 such facility is in compliance with the provisions of California Health & Safety Code §
 11 19955 et seq. Plaintiff is a member of the public whose rights are protected by the
 12 provisions of California Health & Safety Code § 19955 et seq.

13 44. The purpose of California Health & Safety Code § 1995 et seq. is to ensure
 14 that public accommodations or facilities constructed in this state with private funds
 15 adhere to the provisions of Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 4450) of Division 5 of
 16 Title 1 of the Government Code. The code relating to such public accommodations also
 17 require that “when sanitary facilities are made available for the public, clients, or
 18 employees in these stations, centers, or buildings, they shall be made available for
 19 persons with disabilities.

20 45. Title II of the ADA holds as a “general rule” that no individual shall be
 21 discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of goods
 22 (or use), services, facilities, privileges, and accommodations offered by any person who
 23 owns, operates, or leases a place of public accommodation. 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a).
 24 Further, each and every violation of the ADA also constitutes a separate and distinct
 25 violation of California Civil Code §§ 54(c) and 54.1(d), thus independently justifying an
 26 award of damages and injunctive relief pursuant to California law, including but not
 27 limited to Civil Code § 54.3 and Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq.

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FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION
NEGLIGENCE

46. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each of the allegations in all prior paragraphs in this complaint.

47. Defendants have a general duty and a duty under the ADA, Unruh Civil Rights Act and California Disabled Persons Act to provide safe and accessible facilities to the Plaintiff.

48. Defendants breached their duty of care by violating the provisions of ADA, Unruh Civil Rights Act and California Disabled Persons Act.

49. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligent conduct, Plaintiff has suffered damages.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for relief and judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. For preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to comply with the Americans with Disability Act and the Unruh Civil Rights Act;

2. Award of all appropriate damages, including but not limited to statutory damages, general damages and treble damages in amounts, according to proof;

3. Award of all reasonable restitution for Defendants' unfair competition practices;

4. Reasonable attorney's fees, litigation expenses, and costs of suit in this action;

5. Prejudgment interest pursuant to California Civil Code § 3291; and

6. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

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DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: April 8, 2022

SO. CAL. EQUAL ACCESS GROUP

By: /s/ Jason J. Kim
Jason J. Kim, Esq.
Attorneys for Plaintiff